

School Curriculum, Assessment & Accountability Council (SCAAC)

March 18, 2014



Volume 3, No. 1—Minutes from the March 18, 2014 Meeting

Advisory Committee Members Present

Rob Akers	Linda Duncan	Brenda McGown
Holly Bloodworth	Jana Beth Francis	Phyllis O'Neal
Michael Borchers	Thomas Guskey	William Owens
Jinger Carter	David Higgins	Terry Rhodes
Roger Cleveland	Liza Holland	Carl Wicklund

Call to Order

Chairperson Jana Beth Francis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. There was a quorum of members in attendance.

Others in Attendance

Kentucky Board of Education: Nawanna Privett

Kentucky Department of Education: Susan Allred, Robin Chandler, Todd Davis, Ken Draut, Amanda Ellis, Karen Kidwell, Teresa King, Kevin Hill, Rae McEntyre, Kathy Moore, Pamela Powers, Rhonda Sims, Jennifer Stafford, Bridget Stanfield, David Wickersham, and Joy Barr

Others: Richard Innes, Bluegrass Institute for Public Policy Solutions; Ramona Karsner, Kentucky Association of School Councils; and, Emily Spurlock, Office of Education Accountability

Approval of November 12, 2013 Minutes

Jana Beth Francis

Rob Akers moved to accept the minutes from the November 12, 2013 meeting as presented. Carl Wicklund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2014 Kentucky Department of Education Legislative Update

Ken Draut

Ken Draut, Associate Commissioner in the Office of Assessment and Accountability, presented an update on the legislative agenda at the 2014 regular session of the general assembly. The 2014 regular session of the general assembly is crafting the

2014-16 biennial budget for the Commonwealth. KDE's primary focus in the session is to restore funding for several critical programs.

High School Assessment Model

Ken Draut

Ken Draut presented a detailed discussion paper regarding high school assessments. KRS 158.6451 (SB1) requires either an end-of-year summative test or an end-of-course test in high school. The end-of-year tests require all students in a grade level to take a summative test at the end of the school year in reading, mathematics, science, social studies and writing. The end-of-course tests measure content in a specific course and are administered throughout the school year at the completion of coursework. SB1 also requires three readiness tests: 1) a grade 8 test that provides information to students about their readiness for high school; 2) a grade 10 college readiness test that provides information to students about their readiness for the upcoming ACT test; and 3) a grade 11 ACT test. In addition, SB1 requires that there be a five-day state assessment window within the last 14 days of a district's calendar.

The ACT Explore and ACT Plan tests will no longer be available after fall of 2014. Currently, the last scheduled administration will occur in September 2014. The ACT QualityCore End-of-Course (EOC) assessment program continues to have substantial alignment and online testing problems. The original plan called for adding up to 12 EOC tests; however, budget limitations prevented the addition of EOC tests. Currently, the four tests used in the EOC model do not fully cover the high school Kentucky Core Academic Standards (KCAS).

The group discussed several key issues:

1. What should the Kentucky high school testing model look like? (end-of-year or end-of-course)
2. How should Kentucky replace the ACT Explore and ACT Plan tests?
3. What timeline should be followed for the work?

Linda Duncan moved that SCAAC recommend the continuation of the End-of-Course model at the high school with an emphasis placed upon the phase in of additional EOC courses to provide more coverage of the Kentucky Core Academic Standards. Liza Holland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jinger Carter moved that SCAAC recommend the administration of the ACT Explore and ACT Plan continue in the fall of 2014-15, the last year of availability for the two ACT readiness tests. Rob Akers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Rob Akers moved that SCAAC recommend a Request for Proposal (RFP) process begin for two readiness tests: 1) a grade 8 test that provides information to students about their readiness for high school and 2) a grade 10 college readiness test that provides information to students about their readiness for the upcoming ACT test given at grade 11. And, request that the test vendor provide evidence of alignment to the Kentucky Core Academic Standards. Linda Duncan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Break at 10:40 a.m.; resume at 10:55 a.m.

Program Reviews

Karen Kidwell

Karen Kidwell, Director, Division of Program Standards in the Office of Next-Generation Learners, presented the timeline for implementation of the complete cadre of program reviews. Three program reviews (Arts and Humanities, Writing and Practical Living/Career Studies) are fully implemented in the assessment model. The K-3 program review is in the first year of implementation. World Languages is in the early stages of development. A few schools are testing the program review. In 2014-15, World Languages will be piloted and 2015-16 is the baseline (full-scale implementation). Much concern was noted about the timeliness of the World Languages program review and the need for the development of resources.

Phyllis O'Neal moved that SCAAC recommend a study year be added to the World Languages program review timeline to allow ample implementation time. Jinger Carter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The group broke for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and resumed at 12:55 p.m.

Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES)

Amanda Ellis

Amanda Ellis, Acting Director in the Office of Next-Generation Professionals, provided an update on the Kentucky Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES) model. During the 2014-15 school year, all Kentucky schools and districts will implement PGES for both teachers and principals. At the conclusion of the summative cycle, supervisors will determine an overall performance category for each tenured teacher.

The group discussed several key issues:

1. How should the scores roll into the Unbridled Learning accountability model?
2. Should a summative overall performance category rating stay with educators for three years?

3. Should total points for Next-Generation Professionals be adjusted until the majority of educators have an overall performance category rating?

Liza Holland moved that SCAAC recommend that the accountability date for teachers and leaders in the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES) be the first day of the five-day state summative assessment window within the last 14 days of a district's calendar, and that the summative score of an educator follow that educator and be counted until a new summative score is in the system. Phyllis O'Neal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

KDE Updates

Karen Kidwell

Ken Draut

Karen Kidwell updated the group on the implementation of the Kentucky Core Academic Standards in the content subjects of science and social studies.

Ken Draut updated the members on several topics: KDE withdrawing from the PARCC consortium and the inclement weather time constraints for testing (ACT and K-PREP).

Adjourn

Jana Beth Francis

Topics for the next SCAAC Meeting were requested. Terry Rhodes moved that the meeting adjourn at 1:45 p.m. Tom Guskey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 15, 2014